

Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-03 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8090

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

USMISSION USUN

CINCPAC 605

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 13024

LIMDIS

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, RP

SUBJ: MRS. MARCOS' VISIT

REF: STATE 238906

1. MRS. MARCOS REMAINS UNDECIDED ABOUT HER PROPOSED ITINERARY IN THE UNITED STATES. SHE TOLD ME NOVEMBER 3 THAT ONLY TWO FEATURES OF HER TRIP DEFINITELY FIXED ARE VISIT TO MEXICO AND VISIT TO PRINCETON IN ORDER TO BE WITH DAUGHTER IMEE ON LATTER'S BIRTHDAY NOVEMBER 11. ONE REASON FOR CURRENT CONFUSION ABOUT TRIP IS CANCELLATION BY HENRY AND CHRISTINA FORD OF THEIR MANILA SOJOURN, WHICH THEY HAD EXPECTED TO MAKE WITH DAVID ROCKEFELLER GROUP HERE AT THIS TIME.

2. THEREFORE, ONLY SPECIFIC INFORMATION WE HAVE AT THISTIME IS THAT SHE WILL PASS THROUGH HONOLULU AND LOS ANGELES ENROUTE MEXICO CITY, PROBABLY ON NOVEMBER 7.

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WHETHER SHE WILL HIT WASHINGTON PRIOR TO PRINCETON IS

STILL NOT CLEAR.

3. HER PRESENCE IN NEW YORK IS DESIGNED TO COINCIDE WITH FORMAL OPENING OF PHILIPPINE HOUSE THERE, AND I GATHER THERE MAY BE THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME SLIPPAGES IN THAT EVENT. SUGGEST DEPT AND USUN DISCREETLY INVESTIGATE WHETHER NOVEMBER 14 IS STILL THE DATE.

4. WHATEVER HER SCHEDULE, I THINK DEPT. SHOULD KNOW SOMETHING OF HER CURRENT MOOD. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THE VERY EFFECTIVE SNOW-JOB DONE ON HER BY THE CHINESE HAS INFLUENCED HER OUTLOOK. (THEY ARE STILL AT IT, INCIDENTALLY, WITH GIFTS "FROM MADAME CHIANG CHING" ARRIVING EVERY FEW DAYS, MOSTLY IN THE FORM OF DELECTABLE FOODSTUFFS.) SHE IS INCLINED NOT ONLY TO GIVE CHINESE MUCH GREATER CREDIT THAN THEY ARE DUE FOR RESOLUTION OF ALL THE PROBLEMS SHE HAS TACKLED IN THE PHILIPPINES (FAMILY PLANNING, NUTRITION, ETC.) BUT SHE IS INCREASINGLY CRITICAL OF THE WESTERN SYSTEM OF THINGS, PARTICULARLY AS CURRENTLY BEING MANIFESTED IN THE U.S.

5. SHE DEPLORES WHAT HAPPENED TO NIXON, THINKS THE ATTACKS ON ROCKEFELLER ARE OUTRAGEOUS, AND IS, IN GENERAL, TURNED OFF ON THE AMERICAN PRESS. SHE FEELS OUR ECONOMY IS FALTERING, HAS TAKEN SOME LOSSES IN OUR STOCK MARKET AND WORRIES ABOUT OUR "DISORDER". IMEE REFLECTS A SLIGHTLY HIP CULTURE FROM PRINCETON WHICH SHE DOESN'T LIKE, AND SHE CLAIMS IMEE IS SURROUNDED BY "FAGGOTS" THERE.

6. FINALLY, SHE FEELS HER VISIT TO CHINA WAS NOT PROPERLY APPRECIATED. SHE IS CONVINCED CHIANG CHING WILL TAKE OVER FROM MAO AND CHOU. SHE FEELS SHE HAS AN EXCELLENT RAPPORT WITH CHIANG CHING AND IS THE ONLY NON-COMMUNIST TO DO SO. SHE THEREFORE CONSIDERS HERSELF THE BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE OF CHINA. I HAVE HAD TWO RATHER UNSATISFACTORY CONVERSATIONS WITH HER ON THIS ACCOUNT AND I HAVE THE IMPRESSION HER HUSBAND HAS HAD SEVERAL. SHE THEREFORE CONSIDERS BOTH OF US UNENLIGHTENED MALE CHAUVINISTS AT THIS JUNCTURE OF EVENTS.
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7. GIVEN ALL THIS BACKGROUND, IMELDA IS IN A SLIGHTLY TOUCHY STATE AND A SMALL OFFENSE OR AN UNTOWARD INCIDENT COULD SPELL LASTING DAMAMGE. SHE HAS NOT LOST HER SENSE OF HUMOR, BUT PERSPECTIVE IS MORE THAN A BIT AWRY. IT IS HARD TO PRESCRIBE EXACTLY WHAT IS NEEDED BEYOND MUCH COTTON BATTING AND A DOSE OF GOOD LUCK. WE HOPE EVERYTHING TURNS OUT WELL, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF

ANY PROBLEMS OR INCIDENTS SO THAT WE CAN TAKE APPROPRIATE
PROTECTIVE ACTION ON THE REBOUND.
SULLIVAN

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